

WHAT IS CLAIMED AS NEW AND DESIRED TO BE SECURED BY LETTERS

PATENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS:

1. A process for evaluating skin relief, comprising the steps of:  
  
applying a substrate with an adhesive surface onto a test zone of a skin so that the adhesive surface is in contact with the skin at contact locations and not in contact with sunken zones of the skin;  
  
removing the substrate; and  
  
evaluating an image formed on the adhesive surface of the substrate, wherein the image results from the modification of an appearance of the adhesive surface at said contact locations.
2. A process according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of evaluating a degree of aging of the skin based on said image.
3. A process according to Claim 1, wherein said substrate is transparent.
4. A process according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of placing said substrate in front of a background of dark color before said evaluating step.
5. A process according to Claim 4, wherein said step of placing said substrate in front of said background of dark color is performed without making said substrate adhere to said background of dark color.
6. A process according to Claim 1, wherein said substrate comprises a gripping tab extending from at least one side of the adhesive surface.
7. A process according to Claim 1, wherein said test zone is selected from the group consisting of a crow's foot region, a forehead, and a corner of a mouth.
8. A process according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of comparing said image formed on the adhesive surface to reference images.

9. A process according to Claim 8, wherein said reference images correspond to different degrees of aging of the skin.
10. A process according to Claim 8, wherein the reference images are printed.
11. A process according to Claim 8, wherein the reference images are stored in a computer.
12. A process according to Claim 8, wherein the reference images are displayed on a computer monitor.
13. A process according to Claim 8, wherein said comparing step is performed with the naked eye.
14. A process according to Claim 8, wherein said comparing step is performed by automated techniques.
15. A process according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of sending said image to a remote location.
16. A process according to Claim 15, wherein said evaluating step is performed at said remote location.
17. A process according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of digitizing said image.
18. A process according to Claim 17, further comprising the step of transmitting said digitized image to a remote location.
19. A process according to Claim 18, wherein said evaluating step is performed at said remote location.
20. A process according to Claim 18, wherein said transmitting is performed over the Internet.
21. A process according to Claim 19, wherein said evaluating step comprises determining characteristic parameters of the test zone.

22. A process according to Claim 1, further comprising applying and removing successively a plurality of substrates on said test zone thereby forming a plurality of successive images.

23. A process according to Claim 22, further comprising the step of recording said plurality of images.

24. A process according to Claim 23, further comprising the step of comparing said recorded images.

25. A process according to Claim 23, further comprising the step of analyzing an effect of a treatment performed between successive images.

26. A process according to Claim 23, further comprising the step of determining a need for a skin treatment.

27. A process according to Claim 24, further comprising the step of simultaneously displaying said plurality of images so as to allow a person to perform said comparing step.

28. A process according to Claim 24, wherein said comparing step is performed by a computer.

29. A process according to Claim 1, wherein said image represents wrinkles present in said test zone.

30. A process according to Claim 1, wherein said image represents lines present in said test zone.

31. An information-processing system, comprising:

a receiver configured to receive images in digital form, each of said images corresponding to a modification of an appearance of an adhesive surface applied to a skin, said modification occurring substantially at locations where said adhesive surface was in effective contact with the skin and not in appreciable contact with sunken zones of the skin; and

an analyzer configured to analyze said images.

32. An information-processing system according to Claim 31, wherein said analyzer is configured to determine, after analysis of an image, a degree of aging of the skin.

33. An information-processing system according Claim 31, wherein said analyzer is configured to:

establish a diagnosis based on an analysis of each image, and

based on said diagnosis, select an appropriate care product from among a predetermined set of products.

34. An information-processing system according to Claim 31, further comprising a result output configured to send results of an analysis.

35. An information-processing system according to Claim 34, wherein said result output is configured to send a care product recommendation.

36. An information-processing system according to Claim 31, further comprising a result output configured to send results of an analysis to a person who has transmitted an image.

37. An information-processing system according to Claim 31, further comprising a result output configured to send a letter with results of an analysis to an address of a person who has transmitted an image.

38. An information-processing system according to Claim 31, further comprising a storage device configured to store references images.

39. An information-processing system according to Claim 38, wherein said analyzer is configured to:

retrieve references images stored in said storage device, and  
compare images received by said receiver to said reference images.

40. An information-processing system according to Claim 38, wherein said reference images correspond to different degrees of aging of the skin.

41. A cosmetic treatment process, comprising the steps of:  
applying a substrate with an adhesive surface onto a test zone of the skin;  
removing the substrate;  
analyzing an image formed on the adhesive surface;  
recommending a care product based on said analyzing step; and  
applying said care product on the skin.

42. A cosmetic treatment process according to Claim 41, wherein:  
said applying step is performed so that the adhesive surface is in contact with the skin at contact locations and not in contact with sunken zones of the skin, and  
said image results from a modification of an appearance of the adhesive surface at the contact locations.

43. A cosmetic treatment process according to Claim 41, wherein said analyzing step comprises evaluating a degree of aging of said skin.

44. A cosmetic treatment process according to Claim 41, wherein said analyzing step comprises evaluating wrinkles on said skin.

45. A cosmetic treatment process according to Claim 41, wherein said care product is an anti-wrinkle product.

46. A process for determining an efficacy of a product, comprising the steps of:  
applying a first substrate with a first adhesive surface onto a test zone of the skin;

removing the first substrate;

applying a product on the test zone;

applying a second substrate with a second adhesive surface onto the test zone;

removing said second substrate;

comparing a first image formed on the first substrate before application of the product to a second image formed on the second substrate after application of the product thereby deducing information about the efficacy of the product.

47. A process according to Claim 46, wherein:

said applying steps are performed so that the first and second adhesive surfaces are in contact with the skin at contact locations and not in contact with sunken zones of the skin, and

said first and second images result from a modification of an appearance of the adhesive surfaces at the contact locations.

48. A process according to Claim 46, wherein said product has an effect on wrinkles and said comparing step provides information about the efficacy of said product on wrinkles.

49. A skin treatment kit, comprising:

a package;

a container enclosing a skin treatment product, said container being adapted to be fit inside said package;

at least one substrate adapted to fit inside said package, said substrate having an adhesive surface capable of being applied onto a test zone of the skin and to be removed thereby forming an image on the adhesive substrate of the substrate; and

a plurality of reference images adapted to provide a comparison with the image formed on the adhesive surface of the substrate.

50. A skin treatment kit according to Claim 49, wherein said plurality of reference images are printed on an outside surface of said package.

51. A skin treatment kit according to Claim 49, wherein said plurality of reference images are printed on a support configured to fit inside said package.

52. A skin treatment kit according to Claim 49, wherein said skin treatment product is an anti-wrinkle product.

53. A skin treatment kit according to Claim 49, further comprising a zone configured to highlight said image formed on said adhesive substrate.